COUNTY VETERANS AFFAIRS OFFICES

These are not VAMC, but they will help many Veterans with issues, including filing claims with VA

BERKS COUNTY

726 Cherry St. Reading PA, 19602

Office hours - Monday - Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Phone and Fax 610-378-5601 ext. 8150, fax 610-378-5627

Internet-email: jkingkinger@countyofberks.com

Web: http://www.co.berks.pa.us

BUCKS COUNTY

1260 Alms House Road Doylestown PA, 18901

Office hours - Monday - Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Phone and Fax 215-345-3307, fax 215-345-3833

Bucks County Government Services Center Branch Office

7321 New Falls Rd. Levittown, PA 19055

Office hours - Monday - Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Phone 215-949-5800 (this # is no longer in service)

Quakertown Government Services Center

261 California Road Quakertown, PA 18951 215-529-7250

Office hours – Thursdays only 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

Internet: email: dhfraley@co.bucks.pa.us
Web: http://www.buckscounty.org

CHESTER COUNTY

P.O. Box 2747, 601 Westtown Rd., Suite 385 West Chester, PA 19382-4545

Office hours - Monday - Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm Phone and fax: 610-344-6375, fax 610-344-4552

Internet: email: pandriole@chesco.org
Web: http://dsf.chesco.org

DELAWARE COUNTY

201 W. Front St. Media, PA 19063

Office hours - Monday - Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm Phone and fax: 610-891-4646, fax 610-566-3947 Internet: email: delcova@county,delaware.pa.us

Web: http://www.co.delaware.pa.us/depts/Veterans.html

LANCASTER COUNTY

150 N. Queen St., Suite 103 Lancaster, PA 17603-3562

Office hours - Monday - Friday 8:30 am to 5:00 pm Phone and fax: 717-299-7920, fax 717-209-3077 Internet: email: DTooth@co.lancaster.pa.us Web: http://www.co.lancaster.pa.us

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

P.O.Box 311, 1430 Dekalb St. Norristown, PA 19404-0311

Office hours - Monday - Friday 8:30 am to 4:15 pm Phone and fax: 610-278-3285, fax 610-278-5935 Internet: email: jseader@mail.montcopa.org Web: http://www.montgo.org/mcva

PHILADELPHIA COUNTY

127 City Hall Philadelphia, PA 19107-3205

Office hours - Monday - Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Phone and fax: 215-686-3256, fax 215-686-3267 Internet: email: edgar.a.howard@phila.gov

The internet chair cagaranoward

Web: none

*Source: County Veteran Affairs Offices Information verified via Brian Walters, LSW; 12/2012

PA DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERAN AFFAIRS

The Office for Veterans Affairs mission is to provide advice and assistance to Pennsylvania's one million veterans and their families and to provide quality care to all veterans.

Services include:

- The Pennsylvania State Veterans Home System
- Pennsylvania Disabled Veterans Real Estate Tax Exemption
- Pennsylvania Veterans Emergency Assistance
- Pennsylvania Blind Veterans Pension
- Pennsylvania Paralyzed Veterans Pension
- Pennsylvania Educational Gratuity
- Pennsylvania Veterans Service Officer Support
- Pennsylvania Veterans' Memorial
- Pennsylvania DD214/215 Program
- Persian Gulf Conflict Veterans' Bonus Program
- Veterans Service Officer Grant Program

There are also a wide range of federal and county benefits available to qualified veterans and their families. County Veterans Directors or Service Officers can be an excellent source of information and assistance when applying for these benefits.

Contact Information:

Office of the Deputy Adjutant General for Veterans Affairs

Bldg S-0-47, FTIG Annville, PA 17003

Phone: 1-800-547-2838 Fax: (717) 861-8589

Email: ra.va.info@pa.gov.

For more information, go to:

http://www.dmva.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/veterans_affairs/7179

*Source: directly from http://www.milvet.state.pa.us/DMVA/163.htm; PA department of military affairs information verified by Terri Jo Massey; MSW, LCSW

VETERAN CENTER PROGRAM

Vet Center: The Vet Center Program was established by Congress in 1979 out of the recognition that a significant number of Vietnam era vets were still experiencing readjustment problems. Vet Centers are community based and part of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. In April 1991, in response to the Persian Gulf War, Congress extended the eligibility to Veterans who served during other periods of armed hostilities after the Vietnam era. Those other periods are identified as Lebanon, Grenada, Panama, the Persian Gulf, Somalia, and Kosovo/Bosnia. In October 1996, Congress extended the eligibility to include WWII and Korean Combat Veterans. On April 1, 2003 the Secretary of Veterans Affairs extended eligibility for Vet Center services to Veterans of Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) and on June 25, 2003 Vet Center eligibility was extended to Veterans of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and subsequent operations within the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT).

The family members of all Veterans listed above are eligible for Vet Center services as well. On August 5, 2003 VA Secretary Anthony J. Principi authorized Vet Centers to furnish bereavement counseling services to surviving parents, spouses, children and siblings of service members who die of any cause while on active duty, to include federally activated Reserve and National Guard personnel.

The goal of the Vet Center program is to provide a broad range of counseling, outreach, and referral services to eligible Veterans in order to help them make a satisfying post-war readjustment to civilian life.

* Above Source: http://www.vetcenter.va.gov/About_US.asp

Readjustment Counseling

What is readjustment counseling?

Readjustment counseling is wide range of services provided to combat Veterans in the effort to make a satisfying transition from military to civilian life. Services include individual counseling, group counseling, marital and family counseling, bereavement counseling, medical referrals, and assistance in applying for VA Benefits, employment counseling, guidance and referral. Alcohol/drug assessments. Information and referral to community resources, military sexual trauma counseling and referral, outreach and community education.

Does VA have readjustment counseling for family members?

Family members of combat Veterans have been eligible for Vet Center readjustment counseling services for military related issues since 1979.

Am I eligible for Vet Center readjustment counseling?

If you, or a family member, served in any combat zone and received a military campaign ribbon (Vietnam, Southwest Asia, OEF, OIF, etc.) you are eligible for Vet Center services.

Where is counseling offered?

VA's readjustment counseling is provided at community-based Vet Centers located near Veterans and their families. There is no cost for Vet Center readjustment counseling. Contact your nearest Vet Center. Vet Center staff are available toll free during normal business hours at 1-800-905-4675 (Eastern) and 1-866-496-8838 (Pacific).

*Above source: http://www.vetcenter.va.gov/Vet Center Services.asp

VETERAN CENTERS IN PENNSYLVANIA

1. Bucks Vet Center

2 Canal's End Road, Suite 201B, Bristol, PA, USA, 19007

Phone: 215-823-4590

2. **DuBois Vet Center**

100 Meadow Lane, Suite 8 DuBois, PA 15801

Phone: 814-372-2095

3. Erie Metro Vet Center

Renaissance Centre 240 W. 11 St, Suite 105 Erie, PA 16501

Phone: (814)-453-7955

4. Harrisburg Vet Center

1500 N. Second Street Suite 2

Harrisburg, PA 17102 Phone: (717)-782-3954

5. McKeesport Veterans Resource Center

Oak Park Mall

2001 Lincoln Way

McKeesport, PA 15131

Phone: (412)-678-7704

6. Montgomery County Vet Center

320 E. Johnson Hwy, Suite 201

Norristown, PA 19401

Phone: (215) 823-5245

7. Philadelphia Vet Center

801 Arch Street Suite 502

Philadelphia, PA 19107

Phone: (215)-627-0238

8. Philadelphia Vet Center NE

101 E. Olney Avenue, Suite C-7

Philadelphia, PA 19120

Phone: (215)-924-4670

VETERAN CENTERS IN PENNSYLVANIA

9. Pittsburgh Vet Center

2500 Baldwick Rd Pittsburgh, PA 15205 Phone: (412)-920-1765

10. Scranton Vet Center

1002 Pittston Ave. Scranton, PA 18505 Phone: (570)-344-2676

11. Williamsport Vet Center

49 E. Fourth Street Suite 104 Williamsport, PA 17701 Phone: (570)-327-5281

^{*}Above source: Veteran Centers in PA information verified via Joanna Dyer, LCSW; 12/2012 ;http://www2.va.gov/directory/guide/state.asp?STATE=PAanddnum=ALL

VETERAN SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS (VSOs)

Pennsylvania American Legion

Kit Watson, Department Adjutant

PO Box 2324

Harrisburg, PA 17105 Phone: 717-730-9100

Website: www.pa-legion.com

The American Legion is a <u>congressionally chartered</u> patriotic, mutual-aid <u>Veterans organization</u> of the <u>United States armed forces</u> founded to benefit those Veterans who served during a wartime period as defined by the <u>U.S. Congress</u>. The American Legion is able to assist Veterans in a variety of capabilities, including temporary financial assistance, volunteer services, Veteran advocacy, and assistance with finding housing for homeless Veterans.

AMVETS Regional Office

Elliot Miller, National Service Officer 5000 Wissahickon Ave, PO Box 42938

Philadelphia, PA 19101-2939

Phone: 215-381-3294

Email: elliot.miller@va.gov
Website: www.amvets.org

AMVets' outreach effort takes many forms, from the professional advice our service officers offer on earned Veterans benefits to our legislative efforts on Capitol Hill to the work done by our hospital volunteers. National Service Officers assist Veterans with their claims with the VA as advocates on their behalf.

Disabled American Veterans (DAV)

Philadelphia Office: VAROIC P.O. Box 42938 Wissahickon and Manheim Streets Philadelphia, PA 19101

Phone: 215-381-3065 Website: www.dav.org

The 1.2 million-member Disabled American Veterans (DAV) is a non-profit 501(c)(4) charity dedicated to building better lives for America's disabled Veterans and their families. Annually, the DAV represents more than 200,000 Veterans and their dependents with claims for benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs and Department of Defense. The DAV's Voluntary Services Program operates a comprehensive network of volunteers who provide Veterans free rides to and from VA medical facilities and improve care and morale for sick and disabled Veterans. The DAV's 1.2 million members provide grassroots advocacy and services in communities nationwide. From educating lawmakers and the public about important issues to supporting services and legislation to help disabled Veterans — the DAV is there to promote its message of hope to all who have served and sacrificed.

Never Alone

Joe Hubicki, Founder 7816 Winston Road Philadelphia, PA 19118 Phone: 1-866-458-4333

Email: jhubicki@earthlink.net

Website: www.neveralonecharity.com

Never Alone is a non-profit organization that provides low income seniors with High Tech assist devices which keep them living independently in their own homes. Founded by a group of concerned citizens, caregivers and inventors, Never Alone is committed to offering local services and resources for the elderly and handicapped who find it difficult to take care of themselves on their own. The organization was established to promote and/or provide direct care services to the elderly and handicapped as well as their caregivers and families.

Operation Homefront of PA and DE, Inc.

PO Box 520

Blue Bell, PA 19422

Phone: 215-764-6164 or 1-800-779-5892

Fax: 1-888-699-5822

Email: pa@operationhomefront.net Website: www.operationhomefront.net

Operation Homefront is a nationwide organization that provides emergency assistance and morale to our troops, to the families they leave behind, and to wounded warriors when they return home. This program partners with local volunteers, donors and businesses to connect troops and their families with emergency services such as emergency financial assistance, donated pro bono or discounted services and ways to stay connected to love ones overseas. Operation Homefront also provides morale support like Easter baskets, back-to-school backpacks, Freedom Walks, Thanksgiving baskets and holiday Adopt-A-Family.

PA National Guard- Military OneSource

Fort Indian Gap Annville, PA 17003 Phone: 1-800-342-9647

Website: www.militaryonesource.com

Military OneSource assists with education, relocating and a variety of other areas. It is available by phone or online and is a free service provided by the Department of Defense for active-duty, Guard, and Reserve service members and their families. The service is completely private and confidential, with few exceptions to what is excluded.

United Spinal Association

Christen Golden, Regional Service Director 5000 Wissahickon Ave, PO Box 42938 Philadelphia, PA 19101-2938

Phone: 215-381-3037 or 1-800-807-0190

Fax: 215-381-3495; Website: www.unitedspinal.org

United Spinal Association is a national nonprofit membership organization formed in 1946 by paralyzed Veterans. Their mission is to improve the quality of life of Americans with spinal cord injuries and disorders (SCI/D). Membership is free and open to all individuals with spinal cord injuries and diseases. Some of their initiatives are promoting inclusion, improving access, fostering independence, enhancing mobility, and demanding equality, along with our commitment to member service, have helped to improve the quality of life and to create opportunities for their members and all people with spinal cord injuries or disorders.

82nd Airborne Division Association

Leon Anderson Jr.- Life Member 256 Eagleview Blvd, PMV Suite 235

Exton, PA 19341

Email: amm1993@verizon.net Website: www.philly82nd.com

The 82nd Airborne Division Association is for anyone who ever served in the 82nd Airborne Division, and anyone who is currently serving on active duty on jump status; or, has ever served in any of the uniformed services on either jump or glider status and was honorably discharged. Their missions are to further develop the bond between current and past Airborne forces of the U.S. Military, maintain a record of the history and accomplishments of Airborne Troopers, maintain a close liaison with active Division, support the 82nd Airborne Division Memorial Museum, provide scholarships through the Association Educational Fund to recently released Veterans and children of Veteran and active duty members of the Association and Honor the NCO and Trooper of the Year.

Vietnam Veterans of America Inc- PA State Council

Jeffrey White-President PO Box 433

Newtown Square, PA 19073 Phone: 1-800-VVA-VETS

Email: vvapastatecouncil@verizon.net

Website: www.vva.org

Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc. is the only Congressional chartered Vietnam Veterans organization. It looks to aggressively advocate on issues important to Veterans, seek full access to quality health care for Veterans, identify the full range of disabling injuries and illnesses incurred during military service, hold government agencies accountable for following laws mandating Veterans health care, Create a positive public perception of Vietnam Veterans, seek the fullest possible accounting of America's POW/MIAs, support the next generation of America's war Veterans and serve the community.

For a list of Veteran Service Organizations, go to

http://www1.va.gov/VSO/index.cfm?template=view

*Source: www.pa-legion.com; www.amvets.org; www.neveralonecharity.com; www.operationhomefront.net; www.militaryonesource.com; www.unitedspinal.org; www.philly82nd.com; www.vva.org; http://www1.va.gov/VSO/index.cfm?template=view; VSO information verified by MSW intern, Amanda Bullard; 12/2012